170. Needs of the Muslims.

MR. M. K. ABDUR RAHIMAN KUTTI (*Member, Municipal Council, Quilon*) said that the Government should rigidly enforce the principle of communal representation in respect of appointments in the public service.

Separate electorates should be granted to the Muslims in proportion to their population for the purpose of elections to the Legislative Council.

The Muslim officers already in the public service, more especially in the Police and Excise Departments, should be granted their due promotions.

The classification of communities for the purpose of appointments in the Judicial Department, namely, into Brahmins, Nayars, Christians and 'others' should be revised and Muslims should be treated as a separate community. At the time when the classification was originally made there were no qualified men among Muslims and hence the grouping of them along with 'others' was probably justified.

Muslim candidates who had passed the Pleadership examination should be appointed as Police Inspectors, Excise Inspectors and Sub-Registrars.

The Marumakkatayam system of inheritance prevalent among a section of the Muslims should be abolished by legislation and the Makkatayam system introduced instead.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Abdur Rahiman Kutty, in regard to the public service, the question of appointing Mahomedans has been and is receiving attention and you may rest assured that their opportunities of admission to the service will in no way be interfered with.

In regard to representative institutions, you practically ask for proportional representation. That will involve reconstituting the basis on which the franchise of the Legislative Council has been formed. It is an important matter of policy whether one particular community should be removed from the ordinary rule governing franchise and placed on a separate basis. For the present, at any rate, I am not prepared to take that question up.

In regard to legislation to alter the Marumakkathayam system of inheritance in the case of Mahomedans, I belive I am correct in saying that there is only one section of Mahomedans who follow Marumakkathayam. If they will secure the services of a non-official member of the Legislative Council to introduce a private bill into the Council, I shall certainly authorise the admission of the bill, if there is a strong desire for it.

171. Concessions to the Ezhur Chetti community in the matter of education and appointments in the public service.

MR. N. MANICKAM PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Padmanabhapuram*) said that the Ezhur Chetti community once occupied a prominent place in the State. But for the last thirty years or so,

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